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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM

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SNYDER, RICHARD E., 201 FILE

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CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
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Okay 1/12/98

b. (Cont'd)

was Edward L. Freers, who signed the dispatch as Charge d'Affairs, ad interim.

Brief History of Agency Interest in Subject

c. Richard E. Snyder (DPOB: 10 December 1919, Passaic, N.J.) applied for employment with the CIA in June 1949 and submitted a complete PHS form at that time. He entered on duty with CIA in June 1949 and submitted a complete PHS form at that time. He entered on duty with CIA on 8 November 1949 as a GS-9 (\$4600.00 per annum). According to his personnel file (see tab c), he was assigned to OPC and was slated to serve in Tokyo (the file contains no entry showing that he actually served in Tokyo). He did, however, serve in Heidelberg, beginning in March 1950. While in Germany he apparently resigned effective 26 September 1950 in order to assume a position with HICOG. There are no further entries in his personnel file. The SR Division, however, has an unofficial file on him (see tab d). That file shows that

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c. (Cont'd)

Nelson BRICKHAM, an SR Division staff employee, was in contact with SNYDER for about one year (1956-1957). BRICKHAM used Snyder as a spotter at Harvard where Snyder was studying Russian and had access to other students who might be going to USSR. There is no record of POA, OA or CSA action in that connection. In March 1959 (probably just before SNYDER's departure for Moscow), State requested that he be given two weeks of OBS Course (probably ORR's training in Soviet Order of Battle).

Brief History of Agency Interest in Subject

d. Edward L. Freers was never an employee of the CIA. He has been an employee of the Department of State since 1941 and has served in various countries. In 1952, while a "Peripheral Officer" with State Department in Rome, OPC requested "liaison clearance" on him; the clearance was granted in April 1952. The interest was dropped in 1955 and the clearance was

CIA Insert 1...page 4

d. (Cont'd)

cancelled. From September to November 1956, IO Division officials were in official contact with him because of his position at the Department of State. For that purpose, IO requested and received liaison clearance from the Office of Security. In addition, the Office of Security file contains the following record of interest and clearance action concerning FREERS:

April 1957	SE/PP
April 1958	OSI
August 1958	C/PP/LO
August 1959	C/PP/LO
January 1962	DPD-DD/P

/Memorandum (Classified Secret) for Chief CI/R&S,
 Subject: Article Alleging Oswald was Interviewed
 by CIA Employees, 17 March 1964, located in CIA
 Loose Documents on Richard E. Snyder/

(Classified Secret)

CIA Insert 1...page 5

In a memorandum dated March 18, 1964 for J. Lee Rankin, General Counsel of the Warren Commission, CIA Deputy Director for Plans Richard Helms made the following statement about Allen and Scott's allegation that Oswald met with CIA representatives in Moscow:

3. I desire to state for the record that the allegation carried in this press report is utterly unfounded as far as the CIA is concerned.

/Memorandum (classified Secret) for Mr. J. Lee Rankin from Richard Helms, Deputy Director for Plans, Subject: Article Alleging that Oswald was interviewed by CIA in Moscow, 18 March 1964, located in CIA 201 File on Richard E. Snyder.7

(Classified Secret)

CIA INSERT 1

A CIA memorandum dated March 17, 1964, for Chief CI/R&A, quoted this allegation and made the following reply:

2. This allegation is absolutely unfounded as the following facts bear out:

- a. The article cites a State Department "cable", No. 234, dated 2 November 1959. Such "cable" probably does not exist; however, the State Department dispatch, No. 234, dated 2 November 1959, from the U.S. Embassy in Moscow is no doubt the one which the article intended to cite. The dispatch carries the security classification "Confidential." (See tab b)
- b. The dispatch contains no statement or inference that Richard E. Snyder, the Second Secretary of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow who talked with Oswald on 31 October 1959, has CIA connection. Snyder's name is the only name of a person mentioned who might have spoken with Oswald. The only other U.S. official whose name was mentioned in that State Department dispatch

CIA INSERT 2

However, section 2.c. of the CIA memorandum of March 17, 1964, which was previously quoted, states that Snyder served with the CIA in Heidelberg, Germany beginning in March 1950, and that while he was in Germany, he apparently resigned effective September 26, 1950.

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In addition,

CIA INSERT 3

However, section 2.c. of the CIA memorandum of March 17, 1964, which was previously quoted, states that for approximately one year (1956-1957) a CIA employee, Nelson Brickham, used Snyder as a spotter at Harvard University where Snyder was studying Russian and had access to other students who might be going to the USSR.*

*This letter is included in Official Personnel Folder on Snyder at the CIA. Also included in this file and in the CIA Office of Security File on Snyder are copies of a reply from the CIA Personnel Office to Snyder, dated October 12, 1970.

The CIA memorandum also states that in 1959 the State Department requested that Snyder be given a two-week course, probably in the Soviet Order of Battle.

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Snyder testified that he recalls the existence of a course to train State Department personnel who are headed overseas to identify military objects, but that he did not take the course, probably because the timing of his assignment to Moscow in 1959 did not permit it.

CIA INSERT 4

The CIA 201 file on Snyder contains a memorandum dated June 30, 1949 regarding foreign service candidates. The memorandum lists a number of candidates, including Richard E. Snyder and John A. McVickar.

/CIA Memorandum (classified Secret) re Foreign Service Candidates, 6-30-49, located in CIA 201 File on Richard E. Snyder./